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THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM

601 COLORADO STREET AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701

NEWS

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Subject: UT Austin Buildings

RELEASE ON RECEIPT

AUSTIN, Texas (Spl.)--Based on action Friday (Feb. 13) by The University of Texas System Board of Regents, one of the oldest buildings on the UT Austin campus--Battle Hall (built in 1911)--will be restored for use by the School of Architecture.

In 1977, the building was among several structures scheduled for remodeling to accommodate architecture studies. However, in 1978, the Regents directed that a feasibility study be made for restoring Battle Hall primarily as a site for some of UT's art collections. The study never was initiated, and subsequently the Regents authorized a feasibility study and appointed architects for a new museum of fine arts.

Battle Hall, UT's first library building, once again becomes part of a current project to upgrade facilities for architecture. Involved are improvements to Goldsmith Hall (the architecture building), Sutton Hall and, eventually, West Mall Office Building.

Also at its Friday meeting, the Board of Regents took two actions involving the Lyndon B. Johnson Library/Museum at UT Austin.

A contract of \$163,360 for landscape and site modifications to the west grounds of the LBJ Library was awarded to Landscape Design and Construction Inc. of Dallas. The project, made necessary by the widening of Old Red River from 23rd to 26th, includes grading, topsoil, grass sodding and irrigation restoration, as well as the planting of 25 new oak trees, ornamental shrubs and the transplanting of an American elm from the LBJ Ranch grounds. The project has a total cost of \$200,625.

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and renovated space for the School of Architecture.

The Regents approved preliminary plans to restore and improve, at a cost of \$4,440,000, Battle Hall. Built in 1911, Battle Hall will provide 38,715 gross square feet of improved facilities for the School of Architecture Library, architectural drawings collection, slide collection, materials laboratory, and faculty and library staff offices. Also included will be two new elevators and a sprinkler system. Restoration of the exterior will not alter Cass Gilbert's architectural design for the 1911 building.

Revised preliminary plans for the remodeling and expansion of Goldsmith Hall (the original architecture building) were approved. That project's estimated cost is \$11 million.

Remodeling in Goldsmith Hall will provide a first-floor exhibition area, additional review spaces, improved design studios, seminar rooms, offices for graduate students and teaching assistants, and a sprinkler system.

New construction associated with the expansion of Goldsmith Hall will provide additional architectural instructional studios, review spaces, a 100-seat classroom with media facilities, faculty and administrative offices, studio support shop and printing facilities, student lounge, new restrooms, an additional elevator for the disabled, new stairway and sprinkler system.

In other action concerning the UT Austin physical plant, the Regents:

--Approved preliminary plans for Central Chilling Station No. 5, which has an estimated total project cost of \$16,950,000.

--Awarded contracts totaling \$269,267 to five firms for landscape office furniture to be used to create temporary offices in the Graduate School of Business Building when remodeling in the Business-Economics Office Building displaces business and economics faculty members. Awards went to Stewart Office Supply Company, Dallas (\$48,025); Commercial Drywall of Austin (\$15,469); Business Products and Services of El Paso (\$199,362); Carpet Services of Austin (\$5,740) and E. G. Jenkins Company of Dallas (\$670).

--Authorized a project to enclose an open terrace on the fourth floor of the Academic Center. The converted terrace would provide a large multi-purpose area of about 5,000 gross square feet of space. Appointed as the project architect was the firm of Zapalac Associates Architects, Austin.

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